



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE MAN INDICTED FOR NARCOTICS, FIREARM VIOLATIONS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and illegal possession of a sawed-off shotgun.

Shondel C. Church, 36, of Independence, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Church** possessed with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on Feb. 19, 2004.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Church** possessed a sawed-off shotgun on March 7, 2004. The indictment alleges that the firearm's serial number had been removed or obliterated and that its barrel length was 12 inches and its overall length was 18.5 inches.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Metropolitan Drug Task Force, the Jackson County, Mo., Drug Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow